

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /101 W

----- 005851

R 081810Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 443

INFO AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 2122

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, BE

SUBJECT: TINDEMANS' PROSPECTS IMPROVE

REF: BRUSSELS 1995

1. FORMATEUR LEO TINDEMANS MOVED CLOSER TO THE PREMIERSHIP APRIL 6 WHEN SOCIAL CHRISTIAN AND SOCIALIST PARTY NEGOTIATORS AGREED ON GENERAL LINES OF A GOVERNMENT PROGRAM ON PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN INDUSTRY, REGIONALIZATION, SCHOOLS, AND ABORTION. THE NEGOTIATORS ARE NOW CONSIDERING THE LESS CONTROVERSIAL AREAS OF GENERAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICY, INCLUDING ANTI-INFLATIONARY MEASURES. AGREEMENT ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES, AND POSSIBLY ON COMPOSITION OF A NEW CABINET, MAY COME BEFORE EASTER.

2. PARTY DRAFTSMEN ARE PUTTING FINAL TOUCHES ON AGREEMENTS WHICH ARE LIKELY TO CALL FOR:

--CREATION OF A STATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION TO INVEST IN NEW AND EXISTING INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES, WHETHER PUBLIC, PRIVATE OR MIXED;

--APPOINTMENT OF A MINISTER FOR EACH REGION OF BELGIUM

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(FLANDERS, WALLONIA, AND BRUSSELS) AND DIVISION OF THE BELGIAN

PARLIAMENT INTO THREE CORRESPONDING REGIONAL GROUPINGS TO
CONSIDER CERTAIN REGIONAL MATTERS, PENDING THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF PERMANENT, ELECTIVE BODIES FOR EACH REGION;

--ESTABLISHMENT OF "PLURALISTIC" SCHOOLS ON AN EXPERIMENTAL
BASIS WHEREVER POSSIBLE PENDING COMPLETE REVISION BY THE
POLITICAL PARTIES OF THE 1958 SCHOOL PACT;

--CREATION OF A ROYAL COMMISSION OF EXPERTS TO STUDY AND
MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING LEGISLATION ON ABORTION.

3. MEANWHILE, THE CONGRESS OF THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS MEETING
APRIL 6-7 VOTED AGAINST SOCIALIST PARTICIPATION IN A NEW
GOVERNMENT AND AGAINST INCORPORATION OF SOCIALIST ORGANIZATIONS
IN "NEO-CAPITALIST SOCIETY". THE ACTION IS NOT EXPECTED TO
HAVE ANY DECISIVE EFFECT ON A FINAL DECISION BY THE SOCIALIST
PARTY CONGRESS, ALTHOUGH IT APPEARS THAT OPPONENTS OF SOCIALIST
PARTICIPATION IN A NEW GOVERNMENT INTEND TO MAINTAIN THE PURITY OF
THEIR POSITION RIGHT DOWN TO THE WIRE. BOOCHEVER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRIME MINISTER, GOVERNMENT REFORM, POLITICAL PARTIES, NEGOTIATIONS, INVESTMENT PROGRAMS, EDUCATIONAL REFORMS, PARTY MEETINGS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BRUSSE02122
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740080-0331
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740460/aaaacche.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BRUSSELS 1995
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2002 by bryansd0>; APPROVED <06 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TINDEMANS' PROSPECTS IMPROVE
TAGS: PINT, BE, (TINDEMANS, LEO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005